

## ABSTRACT

The present invention provides for a wireless radio frequency ("RF") modem that plugs into a host computer and shares a central processing unit and memory with the host  
5 computer, wherein principal modem functions are distributed between the modem and the host computer. In one embodiment, the modem performs RF conversion, and the host computer performs baseband processing and protocol stack control. In another embodiment, the modem performs RF conversion and baseband processing, and the host computer performs protocol stack control.